companies. Against interest income of Rs.2,241 crore during 2008-09, interest contribution during 2009-10 has been estimated to be reduced to Rs. 1,718.crore mainly because of significant reduction in the rates of interest on term deposits.

Master plan for Jharia and Raniganj coalfields

3399. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn a Master Plan for Jharia and Raniganj coalfields dealing with fire, rehabilitation of people, etc.; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Master Plan dealing with fire, subsidence, rehabilitation and diversion of surface infrastructure in Jharia and Raniganj coalfields within the leasehold of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) at an estimated investment of Rs.9657.61 crore (Rs.7028.40 crore for Jharia Coalfield and Rs.2629.21 crore for Raniganj Coalfield) excluding Rs. 116.23 crore sanctioned earlier for various Schemes under Environmental Measures & Subsidence Control (EMSC) Schemes has been approved by the Government in August 2009. For implementation of the Master Plan, Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority (JRDA) and Asansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA) have been notified as implementing agencies by the respective State Governments of Jharkhand and West Bengal. A High Powered Central Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) with representatives from other Ministries/Departments, State Governments of Jharkhand & West Bengal and concerned coal companies has been set up to monitor implementation of the Master Plan. Some actions have been taken, as pre-implementation activities of the Master Plan for fire control, stabilization, Demographic / Socio-Economic Survey, identification of area for rehabilitation, construction of houses for rehabilitation of endangered people etc. under various EMSC, rehabilitation and control of fire schemes both in Jharia and Raniganj coalfields.

Shortage of coal in power plants

3400. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of good quality coal especially required by the power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the grade-wise production of coal;

(c) what is the share of opencast (OC) and underground mines in production of good quality coal; and

(d) the details of the steps taken to increase production from underground mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Quality of coal produced in the country is largely of lower grades because of the reasons that coal deposits in India are having inherently high ash content due to Drift origin. Accordingly, most of